

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SUMMER FACT SHEET NO. 4
Columbia River Compact/Joint State Hearing
July 14, 2015

Fisheries under consideration:	Treaty commercial salmon
	Non-Indian commercial salmon

Stock status and management guidelines for 2015 summer Chinook fisheries were presented in Summer Fact Sheet #1 (June 10, 2015).

Stock Status and Management Guidelines

- TAC met yesterday and provided an in-season forecast of 108,000 adult Chinook and 500,000 sockeye returning to the Columbia River. The summer Chinook forecast is the largest since at least 1960 and the sockeye forecast is the third largest on record.
- Based on the current forecast and management agreements a total 11,051 summer Chinook are available for non-Indian in-river harvest downstream of Priest Rapids Dam and 5,000 sockeye are available for non-Indian harvest downstream of the Highway 395 Bridge. Treaty fisheries are allocated 35,024 summer Chinook and 35,000 sockeye for harvest.

2015 Summer Season Fisheries

- Treaty commercial fisheries are on-going and have consisted of five weekly periods to date. The fifth period was originally scheduled to conclude July 15. Platform and hook and line harvest (above and below Bonneville Dam) is included in each week’s reported gillnet catch.

2015 Treaty Indian Summer Season Fisheries				
Fishery	Effort (Nets)	Chinook	Sockeye	Steelhead
Spring season through 6/15	na	na	555	na
Jun 16-19 (3.5 days)	362	7,916	3,879	120
Jun 22-25 (3.5 days)	400	6,969	8,624	165
June 29-July 2 (3.5 days)	388	6,660	7,931	175
July 6-9 (3.5 days)	308	5,557	4,458	312
July 13-16 (3.5 days) <i>projected</i>	300	4,200	2,100	580
Subtotal		31,302	27,547	1,352
Allowed at Updated Forecast		35,024	35,000	
Remaining		3,722	7,453	

- Extending this week’s fishery by 24-hours is expected to increase catch by 500 Chinook, 300 sockeye and 110 steelhead over the 3.5 day fishery. Harvest totals are shown in the above table.
- At this time, the tribes have not determined the structure for a gillnet fishery next week and will wait until more is known about this week’s actual catches.

- Two non-Indian commercial fishing periods have occurred to date. Catch includes 3,298 Chinook and 315 sockeye. Catch to date currently represents 99% of the 3,315 adult Chinook allocated. A third period is scheduled to occur this evening (7p Tuesday – 7a Wednesday). Given the higher than expected landings for last week’s fishery, the catch for this evening’s fishing period is now projected to be about 700 adult Chinook.

Fishery Recommendations

Treaty Commercial Salmon

- The four Columbia River treaty tribes have adopted the following regulations:

<i>2015 Treaty Indian Summer Chinook Commercial Fishery</i>
Extend the on-going season until 6:00 p.m. Thursday July 16, 2015. All other regulations currently in place for this fishery would remain unchanged.

- Total catch projections for July 13-16 are 4,200 Chinook, 2,100 sockeye and 580 steelhead.

Non-Indian Commercial Salmon

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation: 2015 Non-Indian Summer Chinook Commercial Fishery</i>
Rescind the commercial fishing period scheduled for tonight: 7:00 p.m. Tuesday July 14 to 7:00 a.m. July 15, 2015

- The commercial fishery is projected to exceed the harvestable allocation assigned to non-Indian commercial fisheries by 20% unless action is taken.

Future Meetings

- Depending on this week’s catches, the tribes may ask for a Compact Hearing for the afternoon of Monday, July 20.
- A fall Compact hearing is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Wednesday July 29, 2015 at the Clark Regional Wastewater District (8000 52nd Court, Vancouver, Washington).